

# ALLIE'S PLAYHOUSE™



# Welcome to Allie's Playhouse

Thank you for purchasing *Allie's Playhouse!* This interactive educational program was conceived and designed by a team of educators and early learning experts to encourage children to explore and experiment, make decisions, take risks, make mistakes, succeed and most importantly—to learn to enjoy the learning process!

*Allie's Playhouse* is unique in that it requires no reading skills to use. In this way, pre-readers are encouraged to learn and experiment more confidently on their own. Through the use of real CD-quality speech—no “robot” talk—Allie and friends will accompany you and your child through many hours of fun and educational activities. Also, *Allie's Playhouse* features a special “Child Safety” mode—you can rest easy that the contents of your computer's hard drive will not be accessed.

Finally, we hope you'll enjoy using *Allie's Playhouse* as much as the authors, educators and kid “test teams” did in the process of creating it!

—Jeff Pucci & Richard Viard, June 1993

# Getting Started

## Installation

To install *Allie's Playhouse* to your hard disk:

1. Run Microsoft Windows if it isn't already running.
2. Select Run from the File menu in Program Manager.
3. Type:  
**D:\SETUP <enter>**  
(If necessary, Substitute D: for the drive letter of your CD-ROM drive)
4. Follow the prompts of the setup program.

The setup program offers the choice between two setup options:

- |                               |       |
|-------------------------------|-------|
| 1. Full Install (recommended) | 9 Meg |
| 2. Minimum Install            | 1 Meg |

*Full Install* copies all the files from the CD-ROM to your hard disk. The CD is used to access the CD-Audio portions only, and program execution is fast.

*Minimum Install* copies only the icon files, the Uninstall program, and some system files. All program execution is from the CD-ROM, and is therefore slower than *Full Install*.

After you are finished installing *Allie's Playhouse*, restart your computer.

## Running Allie's Playhouse

The Setup program will create a Group in Windows Program Manager. Double-click on the ***Allie's Playhouse*** icon to run the program.

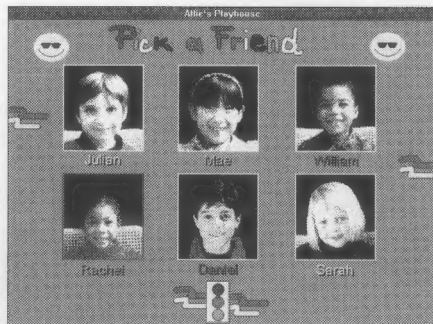
## Uninstalling the Program

If you wish to reclaim disk space, use the Uninstall program to completely remove ***Allie's Playhouse*** from your hard disk. To remove ***Allie's Playhouse*** from your hard disk:

1. Double-click on the Uninstall icon.  
This is located in the Allie's Playhouse Group.
2. Follow the directions on the screen.

This will remove all files, directories, and instructions in your system files associated with ***Allie's Playhouse***. You can re-install the program later if you wish.

# Pick a Friend



Before you begin exploring *Allie's Playhouse*, pick a friend to serve as your "companion" for the session. Your friend will help to describe how some of the games work. Click on each friend to hear what he or she has to say, then click on the traffic light (wait for the green light!) to enter the playhouse.

# Keyboard Commands

Type This...	To Do This...
ESC	Quit the program (if Child Safety is off)
<ALT-F4>	Quit the program (if Child Safety is off)
Space Bar	Replay the last sound in a game
Arrow Keys	Move the mouse in Mouse Maze
1, 2, 3...	Move through game levels in games that have more than one level
F2	Return to Pick a Friend screen from the main Playhouse room.

You can stop most sounds, speech and music by clicking the **left mouse button**.

# Child Safety

*Allie's Playhouse* is equipped with a special feature designed to let your children use the computer freely and independently, without placing your valuable computer data at risk.

When child safety is on, you cannot exit the program by clicking on the exit door, typing **ESC**, or typing **<ALT-F4>**. The Playhouse window cannot be "dragged" or moved to access other Windows applications or the Desktop.

To toggle Child Safety on or off, type **<CTRL-SHIFT-S>**.

When you turn on Child Safety, a dialog box will ask you if you want to make this the default setting whenever you start playing *Allie's Playhouse*. If you choose Yes, the program will always start with Child Safety on.

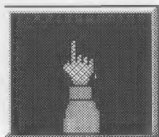
**NOTE:** *Child Safety is only available when the Windows video display mode is 640x480 pixels.*

# Standard Buttons

Most games in *Allie's Playhouse* operate in a similar fashion, using a set of standard buttons that are easy to remember.

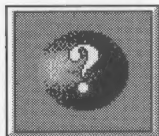


Click on your friend's picture for help.



Click on the Pointing Finger button to switch to Explore mode.  
Just click on objects and Explore!

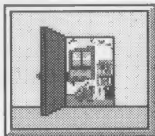




Click on the Question mark button to play a game.



Click on the Number buttons to change game levels.



Click on the Door button to return to the main room.

# Credits

<b>Created by:</b>	Jeff Pucci & Richard Viard
<b>Programming and Graphics:</b>	Richard Viard
<b>Research and Consulting:</b>	Charles Terranova Pheroza Madon Francina Garcia
<b>Singers:</b>	Steven B. Barrett Pauline Lim
<b>Cover Art:</b>	Stephan Lelievre
<b>Documentation Layout:</b>	Christopher Brown, Interrobang
<b>Friends:</b>	Julian Viard Rachel Pratt Daniel Garcia Sarah Hogan William Chase Mae Larson
<b>Voices:</b>	Steven B. Barrett Julian Viard Daniel Garcia Alexandra Flowers Jeff Pucci
<b>Musical Soundtrack:</b>	Jeff Pucci & Richard Viard
<b>Nursery Rhyme Arrangements:</b>	Richard Viard

**Sound Engineers:**

Andrew Murdock & Frank Butkus

**Voice of Allie:**

Steven B. Barrett

**Quality Assurance:**

The "Team" at Montessori  
Educare, Newton, MA

**Special Thanks to:**

Sandy Scott, Pheroza Madon, Directress/Montessori Educare, Joyce Morrill, Ms. Vadha Rajaratnam, Charles Terranova, Headmaster/Montessori Community School, Francina Garcia, Barbara Mordo/Avon Connecticut School District, Par Quimby, Chris Halaby, Pam Edstrom, Professor J. Forrest Posey, Traci Robinson, and every single child that help us by playing with

***Allie's Playhouse!***

# Troubleshooting

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Program crashes or locks up at bootup	System was not rebooted after installation	Exit Windows, then reboot the computer by typing <b>&lt;ALT-SHIFT-DEL&gt;</b>
Printing does not work	No printer is configured in the Windows Control Panel	Run Control Panel and configure your printer
Printer prints garbage	The printer does not operate in graphic mode	Read your printer documentation to see if your printer supports graphic mode
"An error has occurred: CD-Audio-(description)" message appears	The CD-Audio driver is not properly configured in Windows	Open Windows Control Panel, Open Drivers, Click on Add, Select MCI CD-Audio, Click OK.
"An error has occurred: WaveAudio-(description)" message appears	The Wave-Audio driver is not properly configured in Windows	Check the documentation of your sound card and install the Windows wave audio driver for your sound card

<b>Problem</b>	<b>Possible Cause</b>	<b>Solution</b>
No sound is heard	The speakers are not on, not connected, or the level is too low	Check that speakers are on, check connections and level
	CD-Audio output is not connected to sound card	Connect your CD-Audio output to your sound card internally, or connect the Phone output to the sound card Aux Input
	MIDI driver is not properly configured in Windows	Check the documentation of your sound card and install the Windows MIDI driver for your sound card
Balance between different sounds is unequal	Mixer setup is not optimum	Open Mixer (supplied by sound card manufacturer) and set CD-Audio, MIDI, and Wave Audio levels to taste
Text fonts do not appear correctly or words are cut at the end	A font type used by Allie's Playhouse is missing from the system	Make sure that ARIAL, SYSTEM, and TIMES NEW ROMAN fonts are installed in your system

If you can't resolve the problem with these troubleshooting tips, call  
Opcode Interactive **Technical Support** line at 415-494-9393, Monday through  
Friday, 9am-5pm, Pacific Standard Time.

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